റിസർവ് വനങ്ങളുണ്ട്. (ചെക്കോണം, നീരേശ്വരം, കോടശ്ശേരി, ക്ലമ്പൽ മേടിപ്പാടം, തെരുവംതോടം എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ).

(സി) ഉണ്ട്.

(ഡി) അല്ല.

(ഇ) ഉണ്ട്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ അനേഷണത്തിലിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതി അനുവദിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള കാലതാമസം.

* 91. [31] ശ്രീ. കെ. പി. ഹാർമിസ്: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് തദ്ദേശസ്വയംഭരണ വകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി സദയം മറുപടി നൽകുമോ:

(എ) ഒരു മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതി ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേറ്റ ചെയ്ത്, എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ തയാറാക്കി, ചെക്കുചെയ്ത് ഗവണ്മെൻറനുവാദത്തിനായി അയയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു സാധാരണ ഗതിയിൽ എത്ര കാലതാമസം വേണ്ടി വരും;

(ബി) ചാലക്കുടി കമ്മ്യൂണിറ്റി പ്രോജക്റ്റിൽ നിന്നും നിർദ്ദേശിച്ച നീലീശ്വരം ലിഫ്റ്റ് ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതി എന്നു ഇൻവസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ ആരംഭിച്ചു; എന്നു പൂർത്തിയായി; ഒറിജിനൽ എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ തയാറാക്കുന്നതിനു എത്ര സമയം വേണ്ടിവന്നു; എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ് പഞ്ചായത്ത് സബ് ഡിവിഷനാഫീസിലും പഞ്ചായത്ത് എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് ആഫീസിലും ചെക്കു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു എത്ര കാലം വേണ്ടിവന്നു; ഇപ്പോൾ ഏതു നിലയിൽ നിൽക്കുന്നു?

തദ്ദേശ സ്വയംഭരണവകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി (ശ്രീ. കെ. കൊച്ചുകുട്ടൻ):

(എ) സാധാരണ ഗതിയിൽ വേറെ എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ തയാറാക്കുന്ന ജോലിയോ മറ്റു വല്ല അടിയന്തിര ജോലികളോ ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഒരു മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതി ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേറ്റ ചെയ്ത്, എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റ തയാറാക്കി ചെക്കുചെയ്ത് ഗവണ്മെൻറനുവാദത്തിനു അയയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു ഉദ്ദേശം മൂന്നു മാസക്കാലം വേണ്ടിവരും.

(ബി) ചാലക്കുടി കമ്മ്യൂണിറ്റി പ്രോജക്റ്റിൽനിന്നും നിർദ്ദേശിച്ച നീലീശ്വരം ലിഫ്റ്റ് ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതിയുടെ ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ 1955 ജനുവരിയിൽ ആരംഭിച്ചു. പൂർത്തിയായിട്ടില്ല. ചില സാങ്കേതിക തടസ്സങ്ങൾ കാരണം ഈ ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ നടന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതേയുള്ളു.

പ്രൊഹിബിഷൻ എൻക്വയറി കമ്മിറ്റി.

* 92. [32] ശ്രീ. എൻ. ജി. ചാക്കോ: താഴെ കാണുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് പൊതുജനാരോഗ്യവകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി സദയം മറുപടി നൽകുമോ:

(എ) ഇൻഡ്യാ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പ്രൊഹിബിഷൻ എൻക്വയറി കമ്മിറ്റി ഈ സംസ്ഥാനം സന്ദർശിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ;

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(ബി) ഈ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രസ്തുത കമ്മീഷന്റെ മുമ്പാകെ എന്തെങ്കിലും നിർദ്ദേശം സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

ആരോഗ്യവകുപ്പുമന്ത്രി (ശ്രീ. എ. എ. റഹിം):

(എ) ഉണ്ട്.

(ബി) പ്രൊഹിബിഷന്റെ നാനാവശങ്ങളേയും പരാമർശിച്ചു † ഒരു മെമ്മോറാണ്ടം കമ്മിഷന് സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിന്റെ ഒരു പ്രതി മേശപ്പുറത്തു വച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Land Bills.

*93. [34] SHRI P. V. AVIRA THARAKAN: Will the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government had any consultation with the Union Government regarding the Land Bills which are before the Select Committee;

(b) if so, do the Government propose to make any amendment in this Bill; and

(c) what was the purpose of the consultation?

Home Minister (SHRI A. J. JOHN):

(a) Yes; the Bills were sent to them before they were introduced.

(b) The tentative suggestions made by the Planning Commission of the Government of India are being considered in respect of each Bill.

(c) The Government of India have wanted us to consult them before Bills relating to agrarian reforms are introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

Allotment of Homes for Anglo-Indians.

*94. [35] SHRI A. A. D. LUIZ: Will the Minister for Local Self Government be pleased to state:

(a) the exact number of houses that have been built under the Housing and Colonisation Schemes;

(b) has there been requests from Anglo-Indians for houses; and

(c) how many of them have been allotted houses?

Minister for Local Self Government (SHRI K. KOCHU KUTTAN):

(a) 702. The list is placed on the table. ‡

† Please see Appendix IV

‡ Please see Appendix V.

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APPENDIX IV.

[*Please see answer to Question No.* ✻ 92 (32)]

Memorandum on Prohibition in the Travancore-Cochin State

Prohibition was introduced in the erstwhile Cochin State in 1947 and in the Travancore State in 1948. The first Taluk to go dry was the Chittur Taluk in the Cochin area. In the Travancore area six Taluks *viz.*, Thovala, Agasteeswaram, Kalkulam, Vilavancode, Neyyattinkara and Shencotta were first declared dry. Prohibition was gradually extended to other Taluks and is now in force in the following 14 Taluks;—

1. Thovala,
2. Agasteeswaram,
3. Kalkulam,
4. Vilavancode,
5. Neyyattinkara,
6. Trivandrum,
7. Nedumangad,
8. Chirayinkil,
9. Shencotta,
10. Pathanapuram,
11. Kottarakara,
12. Chittur,
13. Talappilli and
14. Cranganore.

The Travancore-Cochin Prohibition Act 1950 is in force in the Prohibition area. The sale and consumption of all kinds of intoxicants and alcoholic liquors have been restricted in the Prohibition area. They are allowed to be consumed by addicts only under a license system mostly on medical grounds. The sale of essences which were being formerly misused has been completely stopped from 1-4-1954.

Enforcement of Prohibition is attended to by the Excise Department of the State. The First Member, Board of Revenue is the Prohibition Commissioner. Officers of the Excise, Police and Forest Departments have also been declared Prohibition Officers. A Flying Squad consisting of one Excise Circle Inspector, four Excise Inspectors, sixteen Preventive Officers and eighty Guards has been recently constituted mainly to help the Prohibition staff in putting down malpractices. Checking posts have been established at key positions of the borhers of the Prohibition area to prevent the transport of liquor from the wet to the dry area. Sign posts have been planted at the entrances to dry area at important routes to demarcate the limit of the dry area and to warn passengers.

Effect of Prohibition.

Prohibition has gone a great way in reducing the drink and hrug evil in the Prohibition area, though it cannot be claimed that the evil has been completely eliminated.

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APPENDIX IV—(*contd.*)

Approximate percentage of addicts still under the old habit is given below :—

(*a*)	i.	Addicts of Arrack ..	15%
	ii.	Addicts of Toddy ..	20%
	iii.	Addicts of Ganja ..	10%
	iv.	Addicts of Opium ..	5%
	v.	Addicts of Foreign liquor ..	15%

Prohibition has done immence good to the poor classes who were formerly addicted to the drink evil. It has surely resulted in the improvement of their economic, social, health and moral standards. Prohibition is a necessary step in raising the standard of living and consequently it has raised the economic status of the drinking classes. In their health and moral standards also there is steady improvement. But in the case of the few addicts who still carry on in their old ways, prohibition has adversely affected them economically and otherwise as drink has become costlier in the area.

Prohibition has a salutory effect on the efficiency and well being of labour.

Women in general welcome prohibition and are staunch supporters. Prohibition has done away with unwholesome drunken brawls in many a home and thereby it is a source of relief to the womenfolk. Customs and caste observances in the State do not oppose or hamper prohibition.

In general, it cannot be said that Prohibition has led to increased illicit distillation. But in certain areas, it has to be admitted that this is the case. This is due to the fact that it offers a good source of profit. Unemployment is also another cause. If employment could be provided for one and all, this evil will go down gradually.

Machinery for enforcement.

At present, the Excise Department is attending to the enforcement of prohibition. The present administrative machinery can be effectively used for the enforcement of prohibition if only more facilities and finances are provided. The Prohibition staff is working under handicaps like lack of equipments, arms and ammunition, absence of sufficient number of fast moving vehicles for the staff etc. Prohibition cases are not easy to detect and are often not devoid of personal danger to detecting officers. All the men have to be given training in the use of lathi. Musketry training should also be given. All subordinates should be provided with lathies and sufficient number of firearms and a jeep or a van provided to each range so as to form a mobile column. Unless a sufficient number of staff can reach a place of offence within a few minutes of getting information, no useful purpose will be served. Naturally all these are expensive, but if prohibition has to succeed, expense has to be incurred.

In view of the directive principle of State Policy laid down in Article 47 of the Constitution, Prohibition has to be taken up

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APPENDIX IV—(*contd.*)

as an all India question. Instead of leaving each State to formulate its own prohibition laws, it would be better that the enactment of Prohibition Laws and rules are taken up by the Centre and an all India Prohibition Act with rules sufficiently strict and enforceable is formulated. The present Acts have various loop-holes which an expert Lawyer can twist and turn to save his clients. The Supreme Court judgment in the Bombay case questioning the validity even of certain sections is an example to show that the Prohibition Acts require a good deal of looking into. This work has to be entrusted to an expert legal body.

All India and all State Prohibition alone can succeed. Prohibition has to be introduced throughout the Union. This would be more effective than introducing Prohibition in States. Probably consideration of finance is standing in the way. But in a noble cause like Prohibition, finance should not be the main concern. It may once again be reiterated that unless finance is plentifully forthcoming for enforcement and propaganda, prohibition is not likely to succeed. A luke-warm policy and a partial failure at the initial state would make enforcement an uphill work. Financial gaps due to the scrapping of Excise revenue have to be filled up by other sources. The recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee may be helpful in the matter.

Though the Prohibition Staff is working under handicaps, corruption among Prohibition officials is scarce in this area. The low pay of subordinates and the enormous profits that can be had from supporting illicit sale or factors to be noted. The way to end corruption would be a well paid, contented staff with reasonable facilities of work. All Government and quasi-Government organisations should be made to help enforcement and propaganda. Railway and transporting agencies, both Government sponsored and private, can do a great deal in stopping bootlegging and illicit traffic by properly insisting on declaration of contents of packages and taking deterrant action in cases of false declarations. Industrial undertakings may impose a penalty on such of their workers who violate Prohibition Laws. All these require correct and intensive propaganda and proper legislation.

Vigilant and proper prosecution and deterrant punishment by Courts are a desideratum for the success of the Prohibition Policy. In this respect, much improvement has yet to come. As already stressed, facilities for work by the Prohibition staff are very much lacking. Again, the staff and officers have to be trained men. It is better to start giving them a training. Many of the men, including officers are not well up in Prohibition Laws and in conducting prosecutions before the Courts, so much so, the number of acquittals in Prohibition cases is large. At present there is practically no support from the public in Prohibition prosecutions. They carry on a policy of non-interference with the neighbour's activities against prohibition laws and practically no one wants to estrange his neighbour by giving evidence against him in Prohibition offences. Another factor is

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that in most cases the witnesses are working men or the low middle-class. By attending Court as a witness, he loses his daily earnings. He is not even paid the batta due to witnesses. This has to be remedied. Coming to the judiciary itself, there is a feeling that proper punishment is not given in Prohibition cases. The punishment has to be deterrant so as to turn the offender away from such crimes in future. The judiciary must be made to understand that Prohibition offences are offences against society and unless it takes an interest in the matter, the State can never become a welfare State. Just to give an example, the imposition of a fine of say a few rupees on a millionare for bootlegging, is going to be of no use in stopping his activities in that direction.

Illicit traffic is not properly organised. It is certainly prevalent more in certain areas than in others. Want of employment, the existence of more addicts in the area, the facilities offered by terrain for conducting illicit distillation, the nature of the people living in the area etc., are contributive causes.

Among the students and women folk, drink habit is less and is not a serious problem in this area.

Response of Public and Propaganda.

Response from the public is not what a staunch support of prohibition would wish it to be and is disappointing. This is mainly due to want of proper and intensive propaganda and the indifference of ordinary man as to what his neighbour does so long as it does not affect him and his desire not to alienate the neighbourly feeling of his neighbour. Unless the general public is made to feel that prohibition offence is a heinous social crime whether the offence committed has immediate repercussions on his neighbour or not, co-operation of the proper calibre is likely to be lacking. For this, propaganda work has to be intensified. The Village Panchayats, educational institutions and social welfare workers may fruitfully take up this work. This also require financing at the early stages. Instructions in schools and colleges would be very welcome as a long-range policy. Vigilance Committees would be useful only if the proper type of men would be available. Otherwise it would more hamper than help the Prohibition programme.

Counter-attractions and unemployment aspect.

There has been considerable dimunition in bad behaviour brawls and family quarrels. Counter-attractions like free cinemas with good moral background, providing play grounds and recreation grounds and above all providing work for the unemployed would help good deal in eradicating this evil. Handicraft adaptable to the locality may be taught in free schools if possible. Unemployment has to be eradicated if prohibition is to succeed. Prohibition has caused employment *viz.*, to tappers, contractors and their families. This may be counter-acted by intensifying the Palm gur development scheme.

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Financial Aspect.

Excise revenue is a sizable income of the State. Prohibition has certainly affected this income very adversely. In this State about 30% of the area is under Prohibition. The excise revenue from the portion that has not yet gone dry was Rs. 240·4 lakhs in 1953-54. Adding a proportionate amount for the dry portion also, the State will suffer a loss of Rs. 343·4 lakhs if total prohibition is introduced. Other sources of income have to be found out and the Central Government has to come out and help the States with subsidy when necessary.

Prohibition Committees.

Prohibition Committees may be useful for propaganda and for forming public opinion. But proper men should be forthcoming. In the earlier stages of the introduction of Prohibition in the State, such committees existed. Later on, they were abolished as they were found to be superstructure and as some of them were not functioning properly. The Village Panchayats may be asked to take up the work.

Frequent reviews of the working of Prohibition would be useful.

Detection.

The following gives the number of prohibition cases detected during the last four years.

year.	No. of cases.
1951-52	1059
1952-53	1349
1953-54	1268
1954-55 (Up to the end of February)	2360

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